RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 2nd March, 1987/11th Phalguna, 1908 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Power Stations in the Eastern Sector

*61. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:†

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 16th January, 1987, that the Prime Minister had observed that there were some places in the Eastern sector where power stations had started generation, but there were no transmission lines; and

(b) if so, what are the names of such power stations and upon whom the responsibility for transmission lines lies in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item. The Prime Minister's observations at the State Power Ministers' Conference held in January, 1987 were made in the context of the need to strengthen the transmission system for better utilisation of installed capacity, and improved flow of power between the States. The transmission lines associated with various power projects in the Eastern Sector are being implemented concomitantly with the generating units with the exception of 400 KV substation at Bidhannagar associated with Farakka Super Thermal Station and 220 KV Hazipur—Fatwa line associated with Muzaffarpur Thermal Station, which have been considerably delayed. These works are being executed by West Bengal and Bihar State Electricity Boards respectively.

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : चेयरमैन, साहब, सिर्फ पूर्वी क्षेत्रों में बिजली की बात नहीं है, बल्कि पूरे देश में बिजली की स्थिति बैरन हो गई है । प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यह जरूर कहा कि पूर्वी क्षेत्रों में बिजली घर तो बना दिये जाते हैं, लेकिन ट्रांसमिशन लाइन नहीं है, इससे कोई बड़ा फर्क पड़ने वाला नहीं है । ऐसा कहने से बिजली का उत्पादन हो जायेगा, ऐसा नहीं है । अगर कहीं पर ट्रांसमिशन लाइन बन भी गई है तो उसमें करन्ट नहीं है । प्रधान मंत्री जी ने स्टेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड के अध्यक्षों से यह बात कही । लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसके पहले एक केबिनेट मंत्री श्री गनी खान चौधरी ने 18 नवम्बर को प्रधान मंत्री जी को जो पत्र लिखा है उसमें कहा है--

"Major equipment suppliers such as BHEL, HEC, Jessops have repeatedly slipped in the delivery schedules agreed in the coordination meetings. There are serious problems of mismatch between the imported components and assemblies indigenously made. Post-commissioning break-down of the equipment, particularly the equipment supplied by BHEL in the power sector is quite frequent and common. This results not only in the loss of production but the cost of consequential damage suffered by the economy as a whole is truly enormous. प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपनी बात एक मीटिंग में कही । उन्होंने कहा कि ये बोर्ड ओवर स्टाफ हैं, प्लान लोड फेक्टर है, ट्रांसमिशन लाइनों का सवाल है. उनके फंक्शनिंग में बेसिक चेंज की बात कही major changes to improve the functioning of the State Electricity Boards....

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shanker Singh Vaghela.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two minutes over.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Sir, it is a very important question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have got two supplementaries. Put one supplementary now.

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आप इन सब कामों के लिये राज्य विद्युत बोर्डों के अधिकारियों को जिम्मेवार ठहरायेंगे ?

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी : मान्यवर, यह क्वेश्चन विशेष रूप से प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो इस बात का जिक्र किया है कि ईस्टर्न सेक्टर में ऐसे स्टेशन बने हैं जहां पर जेनरेशन तो होता है, लेकिन ट्रांसमिशन लाइन तैयार नहीं है, उससे संबंधित है । माननीय सदस्य ने अभी जो प्रश्न उठाया है अगर हम उसकी गहराई में जायें तो उस पर एक गोष्ठी के रूप में विचार हो सकता है । अगर आप मुझे अनुमति दें तो इस चीज से जो प्रश्न डायरेक्टली संबंधित है उसके संबंध में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहती हूं कि जनरली जेनरेशन यूनिट तैयार किये जाते हैं तो उनके साथ साथ ट्रांसमिशन सिस्टम भी चालू रहता है, विद ट एक्सेप्शनस जिनका जिक्र प्रधान मंत्री जी ने किया है, उनमें से दो मामले हमारे सामने आये हैं जिनमें ट्रांसमिशन लाइन तैयार नहीं हो पाई है । ऐसा मामला एक तो वेस्ट बंगाल में है और दूसरा बिहार में है । जहां तक राज्य विद्युत बोर्डों की कार्यक्षमता में सुधार का प्रश्न है, उसके क्या कारण हैं, वह सब कहने के लिये मैं तैयार हूं ।

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : चेयरमैन साहब, बिजली की कमी से न सिर्फ इंडस्ट्रियल प्रोडक्शन पर असर पड़ता है बल्कि एग्रीकल्चर की प्रोडक्शन पर भी असर पड़ता है । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि बिजली के संबंध में थर्मल पावर के अलावा जो हमारी मैल की मशीनरी है उसमें कोल की वजह से जो प्रोब्लम पैदा हो जाता है, क्या आप उसको गैस बैस्ड बनायेंगे ? आप जानते हैं कि गुजरात गैस के मामले में गैस पिट हैड हो गया है । आपने गुजरात में वहां के बिजली बोर्ड में चेयरमैन एक ऐसे आफिसर को बना दिया जिसकी वहां जरूरत नहीं थी. . (**व्यवधान**).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vaghela, your question is very specific. It relates only to the transmission lines. You are going on putting questions.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Are we going to create additional power from tidal waves and bio-gas?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does not arise. Mr. Sahu.

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister has accepted that the Hazipur-Fatwa line associated with Muzaffarpur Thermal Station has been considerably delayed. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government propose to take special measures to pull up these State electricity Boards so that the transmission lines are completed earlier? I would also like to know whether there is any plan on like part of the Central Government to take up construction of transmission lines in view of the acute shortage of the electricity.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : Regarding the delay in this particular line I think the hon. Member is referring to the North Bihar lines because total generation in North Bihar has to be absorbed in North Bihar. Because of the load development there have been some problems. We find that Hajipur to Fatwa line really is a critical line, but it was to be completed by 1985 June. It has to cross Ganga and ten wells have to be dug up. There we find it has taken more time. Eights of these wells will be completed by June 1987 before the floods start and we hope the entire process will be completed by 1987.

Regarding the latter part of the question, I would like to inform the House that we are keeping in constant touch. As the hon. Member is aware, we have been having a number of meetings not only at the level of the State Board Chairman, but even the Ministers have come

for study and discussed it with us. We have taken up meetings even at the level of the Prime Minister. We are following it up at every level. I do not think we should directly intervene in the affairs of the State Electricity Boards which are autonomous bodies. The Government and the State Electricity Boards should really see that these things are carried out by them.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Energy is a priority sector and electricity is a very important element in this. We are hearing the same stock replies from the treasury benches that all efforts are being made to correct the problems facing the generation of electricity and transmission of electricity and the like. May I know from the hon. Minister whether no corrections have been applied, whether no improvement has taken place in the mismatch between generation of electricity and transmission?

Secondly, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that there is a growing menace of theft and leakage of electricity all over India in every State and that your monitoring and control or regulation have completely failed. It is a very important sector.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : While we are aware of the leakage and to some extent also of the very great need for corrective measures, I think, the hon. Member will agree that the electricity departments on the whole have exceeded their target of electricity generation by 10.6 per cent.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Here we are not talking of targets.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: But how do the targets come?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: We are talking of mismatch.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : I have accepted that there is a mismatch and we are looking into it to some extent. We are trying to rectify it by monitoring, by supervision by training or by the task force and seeing the things on the spot. But at the same time one can see how this performance has improved which even the Prime Minister has commended in his Budget speech. In fact, he has said that PLF is something which is striking. All these things would not have come if monitoring, evaluation and other corrective steps had not been taken.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Even the Prime Minister has failed to improve the situation.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : Situation has much more to improve, but We cannot say it has failed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point Mr. Gurupadaswamy has raised is this. Well, you...

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What is the point, Sir? You were about to say the point that Mr. Gurupadaswamy made...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But, why did you get up?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: No, I was going to answer.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will add to whatever you say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you don't answer the point, then I will put to you the question. Please answer.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, the mismatch, which the hon. Member, Shri Gurupadaswamy has referred to, is about evacuation of power generated. There are two things to loading: (a) generation of power itself is not adequate; (b) even when that is done, it is not evacuated and transmitted. Therefore, there is a mismatch and power does not reach the people. Sir, the question is whenever the transmission system is to be laid by the Central Government, it is the Central Government's responsibility. But most of the transmission systems in the country are laid by the State Governments and if they do not lay the transmission system on time—as we have given the examples here

of West Bengal and Bihar, probably the same thing may be true in Karnataka case also—then, the Central Government really cannot be blamed for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is : Is there any monitoring system with regard to the matching of transmission system with the generation system? That is the point which Mr. Gurupadaswamy wanted to know.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, there is a regular monitoring system and the Central Electricity Authority has been monitoring all this and helping the State Electricity Boards to solve these problems of transmission.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Are you satisfied with the situation?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not satisfied. You can never be satisfied. You have to persuade the State Electricity Boards to come up to the required level.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Suraj Prasad.

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : श्रीमन्, हाजीपुर फ़तवा लाइन की चर्चा है । मैं ट्रांसमिशन लाइन के प्रसार और विस्तार के खिलाफ नहीं हूं लेकिन में सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह बात सही है कि जो मजफ्फरपुर थर्मल प्लांट है उसमें बिजली का उत्पादन इतना कम है कि जो ट्रांसमिशन लाइन बिछी है उसको नकीशियंट बिजली नहीं मिलती है, दूसरा मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि अभी तक मुजफ्फरपुर में कितनी बिजली की पैदाइश होती है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question does not arise. Next question. Mr. B. Satyanarayan Reddy.

***Capacity utilisation of various* Units of the Cement Corporation of India**

*62. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of *INDUSTRY* be pleased to state:

(a) the total output of various units under the Cement Corporation of India during the year 1985-86; and

(b) the capacity utilisation of various units of the Cement Corporation of India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total output of various units of the Cement Corporation of India Limited during the year 1985-86 was 19.72 lakh tonnes.

(b) The capacity utilisation of various units of Cement Corporation of India during the last three years was as follows:—

	(% *Capacity utilisation*)		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
(1) Mandhar	98	95	95
(2) Kurkunta	94	92	79
(3) Bokajan	84	89	87
(4) Rajban	94	94	83
(5) Nayagaon	80	81	64
(6) Akaltara	76	70	66
(7) Yerraguntla	78	69	63
(8) Charkhi Dadri	112	105	78
(9) Adilabad	38	58	59